Wedding Band Worksheet

1. **Describe the *stasis* in the play: where, when, who, what, etc. in a paragraph.**

This play is taking place in the summer of 1918 on a Saturday morning, in a city near a sea in South Carolina. Some of the main characters are Julia, Herman, Herman’s mother, Fanny, Lula, and Mattie. The main idea of this play is that a black woman and a white man are secretly together and want to get married but during this time interracial couples were looked down upon and it was against the law.

1. **What is the *intrusion*?**

Herman becomes ill off the flu that has been spreading after the World War.

3. What is the *unique factor*?

Herman falling ill at Julia’s place causes his family to arrive at a place where only black people lived. This causes racial tensions to rise.

4. What is the *dramatic question* that should be answered by the end of the play?

Will Herman and Julia run away and get married?

Will Herman’s mother accept their marriage?

Will Herman die from illness?

5. Provide an illustration of the *two kinds of exposition* that the play has in it.

In the beginning, Julia’s room is portrayed as to show that he has just moved into the house.

Nelson’s issue show that racism was hardcore during that period.

And Mattie telling the children not to go out because they might catch the flu is also an exposition

6. Identify the most *theatrical moment* in the play and of what importance it seems to be.

The last scene is the most theatrical moment in the play. It clearly shows the division inside the society based on different races. And it also shows how the society affects a relationship of a couple.

7. List some of the *themes* of the play.

Racism, Inter-racial marriage, War and war profits, Married versus unmarried couples.

8. What do the principal characters *want* and what are some *obstacles* that stand in the way of them getting what they want?

Julia and Herman want to get married. But it is an inter-racial marriage, which is not allowed by the laws. And the society, including Herman’s father is not approving it.

9. Describe some possible *images* in the play and how does the *title* help us understand the play.

Wedding band symbolizes the commitment of the couple to be together forever.

Nelson’s uniform represents a higher status.

10. Briefly define the *family relationships* that are examined in the play.

Mattie and Teeta: Mother-daughter relation

Julia and Herman’s mother: Daughter in Law-Mother in law

Herman and his mother; Nelson and his mother: Son-mother

Julia and Herman; Mattie and October: Couples that are not legally married